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ABSTRACT

Expanding student knowledge of basic geographic concepts through fictional literature is the goal of this instructional guide. During a 2-week Global Studies Institute, held at Sturbridge, Massachusetts, teachers and librarians selected motivational books of contemporary and historical literature appropriate to middle school students and developed instructional activities to teach basic geographic concepts. The following criteria were used to select 10 books: (1) the geographic or historic elements; (2) the appeal of the characters to middle schools students; and (3) the literary quality of the fictional work. In each book, physical and/or cultural geography was to be a key factor influencing the story. The activities are designed to teach five basic geographic concepts: (1) climate; (2) economic situations; (3) physical features and distances; (4) cultural patterns; and (5) historical backgrounds. Skill development activities emphasize map reading, reading, and writing skills. (SM)



A WORLD OF FICTION GLOBAL INSIGHTS IN FICTIONAL LITERATURE

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A WORLD OF FICTION:

GLOBAL INSIGHTS

IN

FICTIONAL LITERATURE

This project was the outcome of a two-week Global Studies Institute, sponsored by the Danforth Foundation of St. Louis and held at Sturbridge, Massachusetts, in July 1986, at which a seventh grade geography teacher and a middle school librarian decided to combine their expertise to produce a series of model activities, based upon motivational fiction, to encourage the understanding of geographical concepts.

* * * * *

The materials were developed and produced through a mini-grant of the Massachusetts Global Studies Institute, funded by the Danforth Foundation of St. Louis.



BACKGROUND RATIONALE

There is a vast wealth of well-written children's literature that is set in areas of the world which are currently studied in middle school social studies classes. We are convinced that children can not only learn the basic concepts of social studies through their fictional reading, but that they will probably better retain such concepts when these are reinforced through fictional media of appeal to them. We also believe that children will reach a better understanding of the impact of geographical and historical factors when these factors impact upon specific characters about whom they are reading.

However, the project of selecting, reading and reviewing those books available, as well as developing meaningful evaluative activities for each one, is an impossible task for one teacher and one librarian working alone. If some examples of completed products were available, many teachers would find it convenient to use, adapt and expand these as supplementary materials for their classroom lessons in social studies.

* * * * * *

The activities included in this booklet were developed by teachers and librarians using recognized titles of contemporary or historical fiction. Criteria included: (1) geographical or historical elements, (2) characters of appeal to middle school students, and (3) the literary quality of the fictional work. In each book, physical and/or cultural geography was to be a key factor influencing the story.

The activities have been designed to cover such basic concepts of geography as climate, economic situations, physical features and distances, cultural patterns and historical backgrounds. Students may be asked to locate specific geographical features, to define cultural terms and make cultural comparisions and contrasts, and to use context clues and reference sources to expand their understanding of each book's theme and plot.

While the major goal of this project is an expanded knowledge of basic social studies concepts, side benefits should include an improvement in students' reading and writing skills plus a better understanding of themselves and their world through comparisons with young people in other cultural settings.

It is hoped that teachers making use of this material may contribute a "user's fee in kind" by developing at least one similar activity and submitting it to the:

Massachusetts Global Studies Institute Winchester Public Schools 154 Horn Pond Brook Road Winchester, MA 01890



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Lexington, Massachusetts

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Typists: Debra Langlois and Karen Perzanowski, senior students at Shepherd Hill Regional High School

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CONTENTS

The following books are included in the June 1987 publication of this project:

Aldridge, James -- THE MARVELOUS MONGOLIAN.
Little Brown, 1974.
(Europe, U.S.S.R., Mongolia)

Coerr, Eleanor -- SADAKO AND THE THOUSAND PAPER CRANES.
G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1977 Dell Pub.
Co., 1979.
(Hiroshima, Japan)

Hamori, Laszlo -- DANGEROUS JOURNEY.
Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., 1962.
(Hungary and Austria)

Holm, Anne -- NORTH TO FREEDOM.
Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc., 1965.
(Europe)

Knight, Eric -- LASSIE COME HOME.
Curtis Publishing Co., 1938.
(Northern England and Scotland)

McSwigan, Marie -- SNOW TREASURE.

E. P. Dutton & Co., 1942 and
Tab Books (Paperbound), 1958.

(Norway)

Tung, S. T. -- ONE SMALL DOG.

Dodd Mead & Company, 1979.

(China)

Werstein, Irving -- THE LONG ESCAPE.
Charles Scribner's Sons, 1964.
(Europe/Belgium)

Wuorio, Eva-Lis -- DETOUR TO DANGER.
Delacorte Press, 1981.
(Europe/Spain)

Stephan, Hannah -- THE QUEST Little Brown & Company 1967 DOOR: The Marvelous Mongolian, by James Aldridge. Little, Brown & Company, 1974.

PLOT SUMMARY: In a series of letters, Baryut and Kitty follow traces of the little Mongolian horse Tachi, captured and sent to an endangered wildlife reserve in Wales, as he and his mate escape and journey across Durope and the Soviet Union in an attempt to return home.

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7. Look up the following terms and "locate" them geographically:

Shetland pony Skye terrier Celtic Tagyer



3. Label the following places on the maps of Europe and Asia. Use a geographical dictionary to help you locate them if you have problems. For extra credit, fill in the alternate spellings where indicated by parentheses.

ASIA: Mongolia Miskole(Ulan Bator Kabdo() Kazakhstan (Aral Sea Kuwait Kirghizin(Persia Lipovitz(Ukraine Uman Sverdlosk Cherkassy Kharkov Olga River Kiev Russia

Italy Aix en Provence EUROPE: England Exmoor Ireland Newport Belgium Aurignac Wales Turin France Arles Milan Alpes Maritimes Scotland Austria Isle of Man Venice Hungary Provence Newbury Trieste Stockholm Verona Carinthia(province) East Berkshire Hamburg Moscow Norfolk Lienz Prague Black Mts. Gloucestershire Vienna Danube River LeHavre Carpathian Mts. Dartmoor Rye Budapest Lyon Nimes Grasse Essex Bordeaux La Camargue Portsmouth

9. Use your two maps to trace Tachi's return routs. (a) Label the places where Tachi and Peep were seen and/or captured. (b) Measure approximate distance traveled by Tachi and Peep.



Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr G.P. Putnam's Sons 1977 and Dell Pub. Co. 1979.
Before you read this book use an encyclopedia to learn something about the history of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. You will also wish to look up information on the disease Lukemia.
On what date does the story of Sadako begin?
How do the sleeping arrangements in the Sasaki home differ from your home?
Why is August 6th celebrated in Hiroshima every year?
How do you feel about "celebrating" this day?
In Chapter 1 what did the Sasaki family eat for breakfast?
What focd groups are included in this breakfast?
In Chapter 2 how does Sadako describe her memories of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima?
What was the "worst part" of the Peace Day for Sadako?
Describe in your own words the activities on the Ohta River which ended Peace Day.
In Chapter 3 how did Mr. Sasaki respond to Sadako's being selected for the relay team?



How might your parents respond to your receiving an honor at school?

How is New Year celebrated in Japan?

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Which parts of USA?	the Japanese New Year are like our celebration in th	e
In Chapter 5 a the legend behi	'good luck charm" is given to Cadako. Describe it and it.	n d
	lako's mother brought her a gift of an empensive siled her in it. Why do you think she did this?	 !:
Please summariz	the Epilogue if Sadako's story.	_

Locate and label Hiroshima on the map of Japan.

Attached is a direction sheet for making an Origami (folded paper) crane. If you are successful in your folding, your finished products can be placed at Sadako's statue in the Peace Park in Hiroshima if you send them to the following address.

1000 Crane Club c/o Hiroshima Peace Park Hiroshima, JAPAN



	ngerous Journey, by Lastlo Hamor C., 1962.	ri; Harcourt, Brace & World,
	ad all of the questions on this read the <u>Dangerous Journey</u> .	study sheet before you
	ing cities and towns are mention happened at each location. Put	
Budapest:		
Szolnok:		
Tapioszels		
Rakos:		
Gyor:		
		
_	on your map where you believe	
Make a lis	st of the food Latsi and Pishta eir journey. Compare these foo	bought or had given to them
		•
	r 2 Latsi is counting haystacks tell you about the Hungarian w	
In Chapter the approx	r 4 we learn that Latsi was in Limate year of the story if he	grade 3 in 1949. Calculate is 12 when it takes place.
Why do you train?	think Pishta sang the Hungari	an national anthem on the .
		12
	•	#. ~

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	er the entire				ied Latsi	and
ishta in Hun 	gary which ye	ou enjoy i	n our democ	racy? 		



PLOT SUMMARY: When twelve-year-old David Escapes From the Dact European prison camp he has known all his life. to makes his way across Turope discovering the beauty of the outside world and learning that people can be trusted after all. 1. What did David use to orient himself geographically and to find his way as he traveled north? 2. What skills had he acquired in the internment camp chick helped him to survive and to cope in the new and strange 3. How did David learn about (a) his daily location and (b) the objects of "ordinary living?" 4. Hany things which we take for granted were brand-new emperiences for David. Make a list of these as you are reading the book. 5. In the list above, which are "universal experiences" across countries and continents? "Mark your list its a T. (Examples: books; how to smile; drinking milk) 5. If David had been traveling across Africa, how would his traval experiences have been made more difficult? (Los: at maps of Europe and Africa and note physical features, Population density, transportation systems, etc.

ICON: North To Freedom, by Anne Molm. Marcourt, Brace & Morld, 1915

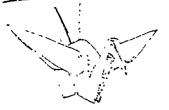


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7. Label the following places on the map of Darage.

Graece Salonita Corio Ital; Salerno Lugano Naples Spain St. Got: hard Pros Perugia Easle Switzerland Florence Alsace German; Rome Frankfart Austria Bologna Kolding Denmark England Milan Copenhagen

3. Trace David's route and label it as to incidents that happened to him on his travels.



ORIGAMI CRANE

The crane is the most popular of all traditional origami figures. Follow the growings step by step, folding as precisely as you can. Work with a large square, between 7" and 9".

Materials: Origami poper or other thin poper like flint poper or giftwrap.





2. Crease in half again. Unfold.



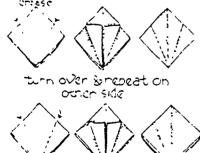
3. Open 1 corner and bring the point down. Crease the paper.



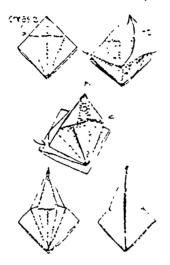
4. Turn the paper over ond repeat step 3 on the other corner.



5. Crease on 1 side as shown and unfold. Turn the paper over.



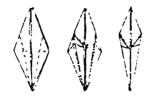
6. Crease the top and unfold. Lift the point as shown and bring the sides in. Crease neatly.



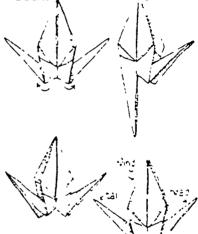
7. Turn the figure over ond repeat step 6.



8, Fold the sides in to the center. Turn the figure over and repeat.



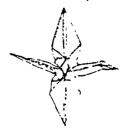
9. Crease each side as shown and unfold. Now refold both sides, inverting the folds between the front and back.



10. Fold the head and wings down.



11. Hold the crone by the wings with the underside toward you. Biow sharply into the small hale to puff out the crone's body.





What is Mr. Carraclough's occupation?
Why was Lassie sold?
After reading Chapter 6 please describe a moor.
In Chapter 7 Joe asks his father, "Is it very far to Scotland?" As the crow flies, how far is it from the Duke of Rudling's estate near Bettyhil on the north coast of Scotland to Greenal Bridge near Queensbury in Yorkshire? Use the National Geograp Atlas in the library to answer this question.
At the beginning of Chapter 8 this trip is described as it would be taken by train. How long would this train trip take?
In chapter 12 Mr. McBane referred to a "ben". What does the Scottish word "ben" mean in English?
In chapters 12 and 13 Lassie encounters Loch Ness. Use an Atlas to learn the name of the town at the southwest end of Loch Ness where Lassie swam the river.
In Chapter 15 Lassie is captured in "the great Scottish industricity where ships are born" What city is the text describing?
Again, consult the Atlas. Lassie had to swim across a river from Scotland into England. What river did she swim in Chapter 17?



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On the attached map draw Lassie's route home. Please note on the map where she had her major encounters with people. Label clearly.



The true name and location of "Riswyk Fiord" are not revealed in the story. With the use of an Atlas choose a geographically suitable town and fiord where the story might have occured. List three facts in the story that you used to choose this location.
PLACE:
1.
2.
3.
Label your chosen location on the attached map of Norvay.
What was the occupation of Uncle Victor?
Why might his occupation have been beneficial to the economy of Norway even if this incident had never occured?
Using a current market value of \$400 an ounce what is the value of the gold moved by the children in the story?
Why don't the fiords in Norway freeze in winter?
In the story Norway's coasts were being mined. How would this effect Norway economically? Consider that trade, fishing, and all water travel would be impossible.
Hame several means of transportation used in the story. What means of transport were used by characters in the story which would not be used in your town?
Use a globe to measure the distance the gold traveled from your estimated location in Norway to its destination in Baltimore, Maryland in the USA.

Snow Treasure, by Marie McSwigan; E.P. Dutton & Co., 1942 and TAB Books, 1958.



: X00E

PLOT SUMMARY: Then a campaign is initiated during the 1150's to anniailate all the dogs in China as a facine- fight-ing neasure, Sung trise to save his little day lacay by finding a way to smuggle him itto Mong Torg, and undergoes many adventures in the attempt. 1. In Chapter 4, Sung describes his impression of long Mong. Was Sung accurate in that city's appeal to the Chinece during that period? Why? Is this situation still true? How did the Chinese in One Small Dog obtain their basis foodstuffs? (List the ways as you read the book.) What kind of labor was involved? 3. How were the pigs taken to market by Ching Chang (Chapter 6)? How would pigs be transported in the U.S.? Does the "pig trek" remind you of anything in our American history? Make a list of the ways of cooking pork that Sung describes in the "feast" scene on page 63. Check in a Chinese cookbook (or on a Chinese restaurant nenu) to see if these match one another in any way. What do these recipes tell you about life in China? 5. In Chapter 0, what various "treatments" does the author describe for malaria? The Chinese government instituted a scheme for providing medical services in the countryside in the late 1060's and early 70's; san yes research the term used for this?

IOON: One Small Dog, by S. T. Tung. Dodd, lead i Despeny, Mill.



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•	In Chapter 10, Sung plans how to search for Nurwy, Ter doc he organize this search? "To build you consult a blace for a lost dog (a) in the Lemington/Dyston/ Torosotter area (b) in a rural area in America?
7.	In Chapter 19, Sung mentions the Great Leap Forward during Mao's time. What was this? Can you compare it with Dang's current goals in China? (Try using the Reader's Guide for recent information about China, and an encyclopedic for the Great Leap Forward.)
ೞ.	What was a "people's commune?" How did Sung's nother feel about going into one? "hy? Is this pattern of obtial and economic organization still being used in China?
?.	Sung mentions a number of places in and near China. Locate them on the map.
	* Canton
10.	Find the current names for those places stars (Use a geographical distionary.)
	Trace Sung's travels and label then with ajor amounts Iro the story.



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22

- Use an atlas to compare the map on Page 20 its a map of Belgium. Now far (in mileo) did margel heyrond commute co his office in Erussels? 'Chapter !'
- 7. Copy and enlarge the map opposite Page 31. As you read the book, label your map with the various incidents raish occur in the story.
- 8. Look up Bunkerque in the encyclopedia. That ports along the coast of England were probably used by the suge flotilla of small and large boats which rescued the Dritish army from the Germans?
- 9. Look up the following words in the dictionary and define them:

van

trek

flotilla

exodus cordon

10. The book mentions all the following places in relation to the beginning of World War II. Locate and label them on the map of Europe.

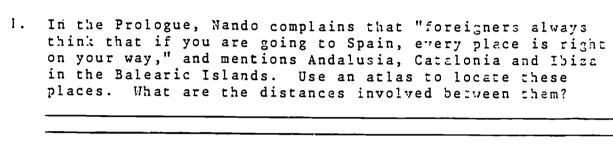
Zelgium Denmar't Morway Ruhr Talley London

Saar Basin ZelgiumSaar BasinOsioCalcisFranceMaginot LineAmsterdamDoulognaMollandAlbert CanalRottardamDenkarquaGermanyMeusa RiverAntwerpAbbavillaAustriaArdennes MountainsBrusselsLourcinCzechoslovakiaMosella RiverAachenPas de CalcisPolandMorkh SeaBrugesMalo-las-DainsLumembourgMook of HollandMarsanMisupor:DenmarkSomme RiverMaystDovar Copenhagen

Oslo Planders Ostend

Caltis Malo-les-Dains 200%. Detour to Danger, by Dec-Lie Muorio. Delecorde Press. 1901.

PLOT SUMMART: Asked to sheek on his sunt's ville in a small Spenie. tova, Fernando dimovers a mysterious group of international neo-Mazis whom he suspects of plotting an assassination, and attempts to circumvent them with the help of his friend Ana-Maria and a young gypsy boy who has been orphaned by the terrorists.



- At the beginning of Chapter 1, Nando praises Interrail and its services. Do we have a similar train service in the U.S.? What services does it offer?
- When Mando first sees the "odd group of men (page 8), he makes inferences about them he calls "stereotypes." (a) Define this term. (b) By the end of the book, what has he found out about the nationalities of (1) The Lawyer (2) The Golden Boy (3) The Hustler (4) The Hippie? (Make notes as you read the book.)
- 4. In Chapter 1, Nando and the truck driver discuss the Basque troubles. Note that this book was written in 1981; use the Reader's Guide or a similar source to look up current information about the Basques and find out whether terrorism is still going on there today. (Extra credit: Use a-historical atlas and see if you can find out why the Basques may feel strongly about their independence.)
- 5. Why did the American boys want to visit San Fermin and Pamplona? (Chapter 2). Use an encyclopedia index to locate two reasons for their fame. (Clue: try the \overline{WORLD} BOOK Index.)



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12.	Define	the	following.	(Use	а	Spanish	dictionary	where
	necessa	ary)						

fonto bodega kiosk loggia feria ayuntamiento romeria tasca paella finca chico tapas Guardia Civil Mudegar sangria flamenco fiesta Moors caballero djellabah

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13. Locate and label the following on the map of Europe. Trace Nando's route.

Scotland
England
France
Spain
(Africa)
Iberian Peninsula
Greece
Bay of Biscay
Pyrenees
Coata Brava
Costa de Solo (del Sol)
Ebro River
Sierra Nevada
The Heseta

Paris
Andalusia
Balearic Islands
Ibiza
Heathrow Airport
Dover
Calais
Bolbao
Vitoria
Hendaye
Malaga
San Sebastian

Loire Valley

Basque area

Tarragona
San Fermin/Pamplona
Madrid
Valencia
Zaragoza
Barcelona
Meseta
Teruel
Granada
Cordoba
Guadalmedina
Torremolinos

The Quest by Hanna Stephan Little, Brown and Company 1937

At the end of this set of questions is an outline which should be completed as you read. Before you begin the rolling note the categories into which you will be grouping information. Complete the chart as you read about Peter and his travels.

1.	Consult an Atlas map of E. Germany and choose a small town
	which has a major RR leading to the U.S.S.R. and a river on
	its east side where you think Peter might have lived as a
	child.
2.	What country did Peter travel through on his train trip from
	E. Germany to his new home in the U.S.S.R.?
3.	What water body lies south of Orenburg?
4.	To whom did Ibrahim pray each morning?
	Describe some of the tasks performed be Fatima as a Kirghiz
	woman and mother.
6.	What jobs did Peter and the Kirghiz boys perform for the
	family?
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7.	The Greeting and Blessing of the Kirghiz men was, "Are your
	arms well and are your legs well or "May your arms and legs
	be well" Think about the role of men in the Kirghiz society. Why was that blessing a good one?
٤.	Write a blessing which would be appropriate for your friends
	in this school.
9.	In Chapter 12 Peter felt "indignant" about Fu Tsin's response
	to the plight of the poor people in the flood. Why was Peter
	indignant?
40	
10.	Why wouldn't Peter's Chinese brother Ling have had such a



conversation with his grandfather?

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	To whom did Turn and Ling part, as one Temple?
12.	Choose a city along the central Tangue Liver where you which the La family might have lived.
	Justify the evidence for your selection.
13.	Why do you think the Dalai Lama wanted to meet Peter?
^-,	. In each country Peter wore the clothing of the people of this oulture. Draw and color clothing on the enclosed paper doll so that he is wearing at lease in liter from each oulture wisited by Peser.
15.	In his travels Peter encountered many different foods and eaching methods. "Good manners" varied from place to place. Then Peter reached home in Germany his taste in food and his table manners were probably a great mixture of all he had encountered Write a paragraph telling that Peter might have liked to eat and describe how he might have eaten it.
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F	



Country	Climate & Land	Town	House & Furnishings	Clothes	Food	Useful Sayings
ermany						
lussia						
lirghiz			·			
hina						
!ibet						
India						
Egypt ERIC			29		•	

- 'Map Peter's route: Develop a key which will show the method of transportation used on each leg of his journey.
 - Start: His actual village is never named in the book, but we learn that it is in E. Germany, that a large river flows a short distance to the East, and that it is on a major rail line with through track all the way to the U.S.S.R.
 - Go by rail to Orenburg, U.S.S.R.
 - Go by rail to a Kirghiz encampment on the steppes near a rail line with direct connections back to Orenburg. (Again, the exact location is not mentioned)
 - Go by camel caravan to a city on the middle region of the Yangtze River in China Possibly Chungking (Chungquing)
 - Go by boat upstream on the Yangtze to its source
 - Go by horse south through Tibet to Lhasa
 - Go by yack south into Bengal (now Bangladesh)
 - Go by car to Benares (Varanasi) on the Ganges River
 - Go by train to Bombay
 - Go by boat across the Arabian Sea to Aden and through the Red Sea and Suez Canel to Alexandria Egypt.
 - Go up the Nile in a falucca to a hotel beside the Pyramids of Giza Fly home to Germany



